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MAP NOTICES.

BY

HENRY GANNETT.

CARTE LITHOLOGIQUE SOUS-MARINE DES CÔTES DE FRANCE, PAR M. THOULET, PARIS.—This map, of which nine sheets have been issued, shows by contours the depth of water off the French coast, and by colours and conventional signs the character of the sea bottom, that is, of the rocks, gravel, etc., or whether covered by vegetation.

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE of the Bulletin, the United States Geological Survey has published 17 sheets of its atlas of the United States. In Maryland are two maps, Ocean City and Belair. The former represents part of the coast, including a little of Delaware, showing the continuous sand-bar, back of which are open bays, succeeded by marshes out of which the land rises gradually. The latter lies inland just touching the Susquehanna river in the southeast corner, and represents a rolling country in which the streams are slightly incised. Both of these sheets are on a scale of 1:62,500, the first having a contour interval of 10 feet, the second of 20 feet.

In Illinois is one sheet, Rock Island, upon a scale of 1:125,000, with a contour interval of 20 feet. It represents a country of rolling prairies, with the Wapsipinicon river meandering in a broad, flooded plain.

In Wisconsin are three sheets on a scale of 1:62,500, with a contour interval of 20 feet. Poynette is in a country of glacial deposits of irregular character, with marshy streams and lakes. Denzer and The Zells are mainly in the driftless regions, in the southwestern part of the State, and show a region of low deceptive plateaux and prairie buttes.

In Missouri is one sheet, De Soto, in the eastern part of the the State. This is on a scale of 1:125,000, with a contour interval of 50 feet. It represents a bench country which has been graded and subsequently elevated, as is shown by the incised windings of the streams.

In Arkansas are three sheets, all on a scale of 1:125,000, with contour intervals of 50 feet. Gurdon is in a low and level country bordering the Ozark Hills on the southeast, while Eureka Springs and Winslow are in the Ozark plateau in the northwestern part of the State. These represent the characteristic features of this plateau, which is greatly dissected, and the larger streams deeply incised.

In Indian Territory are two sheets on a scale of 1:125,000, and a contour interval of 50 feet. Ardmore, in the Chickasaw Nation, contains in its northern part the Arbuckle mountains, which have the form of a somewhat dissected plateau, rising 500 feet above the surrounding country. Nuyaka is in the Creek Nation, and represents a country with very little relief.

At the junction of South Dakota, Nebraska, and Iowa is the Elk Point sheet, showing the Missouri sweeping in broad curves through a bottom land ten miles in width, in which it is joined by the Vermilion and Big Sioux rivers. From this bottom land the bluffs of the high prairie rise 200 to 300 feet. This sheet is especially interesting to the physiographer as a study in river movements.

In Montana is one sheet, on a scale of about 2 inches to a mile, with a contour interval of 50 feet, representing a mining region about Marysville.

In California are three sheets. Redding shows the upper end of the great Sacramento Valley, with the foot-hills of the Sierra Nevada and long spurs of lava running from them down into the valley, separating tributaries of the Sacramento. San Jacinto is in southern California, and shows the San Jacinto mountain group with San Gorgonio Pass and a bit of the desert east of it. It contains several good illustrations of alluvial cones. Both these sheets upon a scale of 1:125,000, with a contour interval of 50 feet. Redlands sheet, on a scale of 1:62,500, shows a part of the San Bernardino range in southern California and a part of the valley of the Santa Ana south of that range.

THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE has published a new edition of its map of the State of California. This is in effect a new map, and a great improvement over former issues. The scale is twelve miles to an inch, in this respect being uniform with the other State maps of this series.

Lakes, rivers, etc., are printed in blue, and the relief is expressed by brown crayon shading.

THE ARGENTINA-CHILE BOUNDARY.—These two republics, the most powerful and progressive of South America, are at loggerheads over the location of their common boundary. Instead of going to war over it, however, they have very sensibly referred the settlement of the dispute to Great Britain as an arbiter. The case of Argentina has been printed in four volumes and a portfolio of maps.

The difficulties between these countries have originated simply in ignorance of the principles of geography. It appears that in all their treaties concerning limits the common boundary has been defined as the "summit of the Andes," to which, unfortunately, is added as a synonym the "water parting." It is well known to geographers that a mountain range may or may not be a water parting, a divide; but treaty-makers have not yet learned that mountain ranges and divides are not synonymous terms.

Over most of the course of this boundary the crest of the Andes and the divide between Atlantic and Pacific drainage coincide, and there is no difference of opinion concerning the location of the boundary; but in the southern part, where the west slope receives a heavy precipitation, the rivers have extended their heads across the range, have captured many considerable streams on the east of the range, and now head far out on the Pampas. Here the Chileans claim that the water divide should be followed, while the Argentines hold to the summit of the Andes, and a large territory is, in the aggregate, in dispute. The decision of the arbiter in this matter will be of interest.

Another area, near the northern end of the line, is in dispute, from a different cause. Here the range is in two parts, separated by a territory scores of miles in breadth. This tract, which has an average elevation of perhaps 10,000 feet above the sea, has no outlet to either ocean, and the question to be determined is, Which of the two bordering ranges is the Andes ?

Of the maps accompanying the case, which number sixteen, arranged in a portfolio, three require special mention.

Number 1 represents a large area in the northwest of Argentina, showing the region which has no drainage to either ocean, and is bordered by high mountains upon the east and west. This is upon a scale of 1 : 1,000,000, and the relief is expressed by crayon shading.

Number 12 is an orographic map of the Andes region south of latitude 39. The scale is 1 : 1,000,000, and relief is expressed by colors at intervals of 500 metres.

Number 14 is a general map of South America, south of latitude

39. It is on a scale of 1 : 1,000,000, and relief is expressed by hachures.

The other maps in this series represent details of the region shown in general in Numbers 12 and 14. These maps range in scale from 1 : 100,000 up to 1 : 500,000. Upon the larger scales the relief is expressed by contours, and upon the smaller scales by crayon shading.

Upon all these maps the fiord character of the Pacific coast is beautifully drawn out, as well as the glacial forms in the mountains. Physiographers will find much material for study in them.

Mappa Geographico do Estado do Amazonas, organizado por Ermanno Stradelli de accordo com suas notas e explorações e baseado nos melhores Mappas—1901. Escala 1:2,222,000 (about 35 miles to an inch). Streams are in blue, and relief is expressed by brown hachures. The map is based in part on original work, and in part is compiled from a variety of sources.

Amazonas, the northwest State of Brazil, has an area of 732,500 square miles (being far the largest of the States), and a population of only 148,000, or one inhabitant to 5 square miles, the only inhabited portions being the river banks.

The map represents the main streams of this area, most of them in all the detail that the scale will permit. The relief is, however, very feebly expressed.